



1641 #6/A

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Butcher, et al.

Serial No.: 09/904,045

Case No.: 20709

Art Unit: 1641

Filed: July 12, 2001

Examiner: M. Ceperley

For: RADIOLIGAND AND BINDING ASSAY

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Amendment and Response to April 18, 2003 Office Action

Sir:

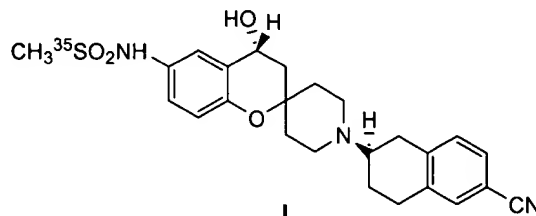
This is in response to the April 18, 2003 Office Action, a response to which is due July 18, 2003. Please amend the application as follows:

In the claims

Cancel Claims 1-4 and 28-40.

Amend Claims 5 and 10 as follows:

5. (amended) A method for characterizing the activity of a compound as an IK_R channel blocker comprising contacting the test compound with a membrane containing the IK_R channel in the presence of the radioligand compound



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

monitoring whether the test compound influences the binding of the radioligand compound to the membrane containing the IK_R channel, and determining the IK_R channel blocker activity of the test compound.